Remarks:

This amendment is responsive to the Office action dated October 7, 2004. Prior to entry of the amendment, claims 1-39 remained pending in the application. All pending claims stand rejected.

Claims 30-35 and 39 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Wood et al. (US 6,453,127). Claims 1-30 and 36-38 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) based variously on Matsubayashi et al. (EP 1109113 A2), Scanlan (US 6,029,245) and Wood et al. (US 6,453,127).

Rejections Under §102(e)

As noted, claims 30-35 and 39 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Wood et al. (US 6,453,127).

Wood et al. discloses a copier that includes a marking engine for printing copies, a user interface supervisor for controlling interface between users and the marking engine, and a network web server that downloads software to a computer at a remote location for communicating requirements for a print job to the user interface supervisor.

Wood et al. does not disclose a "remote repository server" and an "associated database" wherein the remote repository server is "configured to connect to the local client and the remote publisher server via the wide area network" as recited in amended claim 30. In fact, Wood et al. shows nothing more than a computer (30) with a marking engine supervisor (33), a user interface supervisor (34), and a file server memory (39) for storing print jobs. A single web server (32) is used, and that web server is used to download user interface software to the workstation requesting a connection (column 3, lines 4-5). There is no upload or download of printable files.

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Furthermore, Wood et al. fails to disclose or suggest upload of a printable file from a local client to a remote repository server, and download of the printable file from the remote repository server to the remote publisher server under instruction of the remote print service workflow application server. In fact, there is no "remote publisher server", no "remote repository server" and no "remote print service workflow application server," all of which are recited in claim 30 as amended.

For at least the foregoing reasons, the rejection of claim 30 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) based on Wood et al. should be withdrawn. Claims 31-35 depend from claim 30, and thus are allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 30.

Regarding claim 39, applicant notes that such claim recites "displaying a remotely served print interface on the local client computing device", "requesting and receiving via the print interface, a printing parameter relating to the print request", and "sending the printing parameter to a selected remote publisher." As note previously, Wood et al. discloses download of <u>user interface software</u> to the workstation requesting a connection. The user interface software is executed on the respective remote workstation 11, 11', 11" (column 3, lines 5-8). Wood et al. thus does not disclose a "remotely served print interface" as recited in claim 36. Moreover, while the downloaded user interface software may provide for display of "various parameters associated with the print job" to the user, careful review of Fig. 4 reveals that the user is not able to select print parameters from the user interface. The user is merely informed of such parameters in the context of selecting job operations (e.g., scan, reprint, etc).

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For at least the foregoing reasons, the rejection of claim 39 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) based on Wood et al. should be withdrawn.

Rejections Under §103(a)

Claims 1-2, 7-13 and 36 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being anticipated by Matsubayashi et al. (EP 1109113 A2) in view of Scanlan (US 6,029,245).

Matsubayashi et al. discloses a method for providing print-by-reference print function, the method including "providing a web page from a printer's embedded web server, receiving a URL entered into the provided web page, retrieving a printable document corresponding to the URL, and printing the retrieved document" (Abstract). Referring to Figs. 6 and 7, it will be appreciated that the indicated web page from the printer's embedded web server provides the user interface, and that such local web page provides only for identification of a URL corresponding to a document which is to be printed. As recognized by the Examiner, Matsubayashi et al. does not teach a web page configured to request print parameters relating to the print request. The Examiner thus cites Scanlan.

Scanlan discloses method an means for dynamic assignment of security parameters to web pages. Scanlan does not relate to printing, and does not relate to requesting any form of printing parameter from a user via a remotely served print interface. In fact, Scanlan does not even describe any form of request of a user via a user interface. Scanlan dynamically assigns security parameters. Scanlan thus is non-analogous art. Furthermore, there is no motivation or suggestion to combine any of the features of Scanlan with those of Matsubayashi et al. The rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) in view of Scanlan should be withdrawn.

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Even if the proposed combination is deemed appropriate, applicant notes that neither Matsubayashi et al. nor Scanlan disclose or suggest a print interface "downloaded from a remote service workflow application server" as recited in claim 1. To the contrary, Matsubayashi et al. specifically calls for providing a web page from the printer's embedded web server.

Furthermore, neither Matsubayashi et al. nor Scanlan disclose or suggest "receiving via the print interface, a printing parameter relating to the print request" or sending the printing parameter to the work flow application server to direct execution of the print request in accordance with the printing parameter," as recited in claim 1. Despite the Examiner's assertion, Scanlan discloses only dynamically assigning security parameters (column 6, lines 32-38).

The rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) based on Matsubayashi et al. and Scanlan thus should be withdrawn. Claims 2, 7-9 and 12 depend from claim 1, and thus are allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1. Claims 10 and 13 have been cancelled without prejudice.

Furthermore, with respect to claim 9, applicant notes that neither Matsubayashi et al. nor Scanlan disclose or suggest uploading a printable file corresponding to the print request to a repository at the repository address. Although the Examiner cites Matsubayashi et al. as showing such uploading to a repository, the reference actually teaches transfer of a document directly to the printer controller. No repository is disclosed or suggested. Claim 9 thus is allowable for this reason as well.

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Claim 36 recites "displaying a remotely served print interface..., the print interface being configured to request a printing parameter relating to the print request." As noted generally above, neither Matsubayashi et al. nor Scanlan disclose or suggest a print interface "configured to request a printing parameter relating to the print request." The Examiner acknowledges as much with respect to Matsubayashi et al. Regarding Scanlan, despite the Examiner's assertion, Scanlan discloses only dynamically assigning security parameters (column 6, lines 32-38).

The rejection of claim 36 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) based on Matsubayashi et al. and Scanlan thus should be withdrawn.

Claims 3-6, 14-18 and 37-38 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) based on Matsubayashi et al. in view of Scanlan, and further in view of Wood et al.

Claims 3-6 and 15-17 depend from claim 1, and are distinguished from Matsubayashi et al. in view of Scanlan for at least the same reasons as claim 1. Moreover, as noted generally above, Wood et al. fails to disclose or suggest "receiving via the print interface, a printing parameter relating to the print request" or sending the printing parameter to the work flow application server to direct execution of the print request in accordance with the printing parameter," as recited in claim 1. The rejection of claims 3-6 and 15-17 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) based on Matsubayashi et al., Scanlan and Wood et al. thus should be withdrawn.

Claims 14 and 18 have been cancelled without prejudice.

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Claims 37 and 38 depend from claim 36 and are distinguished from Matsubayashi et al. in view of Scanlan for at least the same reasons as claim 36. As noted above, Wood et al. also fails to disclose a print interface configured to request a printing parameter relating to the print request. The rejection of claims 37 and 38 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) based on Matsubayashi et al., Scanlan and Wood et al. thus should be withdrawn.

Claims 19-29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) based on Matsubayashi et al. in view of Wood et al. As noted above, neither Matsubayashi et al. nor Wood et al. disclose or suggest "requesting and receiving via the remotely served print interface, a printing parameter relating to the print request" as recited in claim 19. Similarly, neither Matsubayashi et al. nor Wood et al. disclose or suggest download and display of a print interface from a workflow application server via the wide area network, "wherein the print interface is configured to receive a printing parameter relating to the print request. The rejection of claims 19 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) based on Matsubayashi et al. and Wood et al. thus should be withdrawn.

Claims 21-29 depend from claim 20, and thus are allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 20.

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Applicant believes that this application is now in condition for allowance, in view of the above amendments and remarks. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner issue a Notice of Allowability covering the pending claims. If the Examiner has any questions, or if a telephone interview would in any way advance prosecution of the application, please contact the undersigned attorney of record.
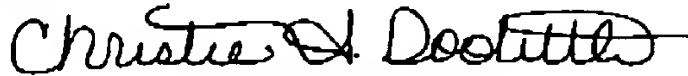
Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to Examiner S. Ebrahimi Dehkordy, Group Art Unit 2626, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, at facsimile number (703) 872-9306 on February 7, 2005.

Christie A. Doolittle

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